Asian Development Bank aid for Madras Thermal Plant

2667. SHRI T. R. BALU :

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has offered any financial assistance for Madras Thermal Plant; if so, the details of the offer and details of thermal project and what are the terms and conditions of the loan offered;

(b) what will be its costs and its capacity and how many units it will consist of; and

(c) by when its first unit is likely to be commissioned

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) The Asian Development Bank (A.D.B.) have extended a loan of US $ 150 million for two units of 210 MW each of the North Madras Thermal Power Project. The loan is to be repaid over a period of 25 year, including a grace period of 5 years. The rate of interest will be determined in accordance with the pool-based variable lending rate system plus a commitment charge of 0.75% per annum.

(b) and (c) The project envisages installation of three units of 210 MW each, at an estimated cost of Rs. 682.81 crores. The first unit is likely to be commissioned by March, 1991.

Regular and miscellaneous matters in Supreme Court

2668. SHRI K. GOPALAN :

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) how many regular and miscellaneous matters were admitted in Supreme Court during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how many matters were disposed of by the Supreme Court during the period;

(c) what had been the average rate of disposal per judge in the Court during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) what steps have been taken to expedite disposal of the pending cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) The Registry of the Supreme Court has intimated that no separate records of admitted, regular and miscellaneous matters are maintains in the Registry. However, the total figures of disposal for the last three years which included both admitted and dismissed matters is as follows :—

Year	*Regular hearing matters*	*Admission & Miscellaneous matters*
1983	10079	70525
1984	6784	70377
1985	15074	77163

(c) The Registry of the Supreme Court has intimated that the Registry does not maintain any such records indicating the average rate of disposal per Judge.

(d) Steps taken to reduce pendency are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendenlym Supreme Court

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the Supreme Court :—

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September, 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.

2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patents Appeals from judgment of single judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100-A).

3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1978.

4. The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 17 to 25 (excluding the Chief Justice) with effect from 10-05-1986 amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.

5. The Supreme Court has also taken the following measures :—

(i) Priority is given to certain matters;

(ii) Miscellaneous matters are fixed daily;

(iii) Writ Petitions with identical questions are grouped together, and batches running from 50 to 100 matters are listed together for hearings;

(iv) Other matters involving identical questions are also identified from time to time and put together, and efforts are made to see that such groups are disposed of early;

(v) The Supreme Court Rules were revised in 1966 providing for printing of records under its own supervision. As that was also taking quite sometime, the Court, of late has started wherever possible, dispensing with the preparation of records, and hearing the appeals on Special Leave Paper-Book, itself, after the parties have filed their counter affidavits and affidavits in reply;

(vi) To save the Court's time, the Honourable the Chief Justice of India is taking mentioning after Court's hours, which were previously taking at least about one hour;

(vii) In Criminal Appeals, Counsel for the Appellant is required to file cyclostyled record to save time in getting it printed, so that the matters could be heard early.

(vii) The Supreme Court Rules have been amended empowering the Honourable Judge in Chambers and the Registrar to dispose of certain types of matters, which were previously being listed in the Court. This has been to save the Court's time.

(ix) Specialized benches are constituted to list particular type of matters relating to that branch of law, in which the Honourable Judges constituting the Specialized Bench are experts. This enables the Specialized Bench to dispose of such matters expeditiously.

(x) The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has recently directed that the Counsel in each matter must file written arguments, if the arguments are to take more than five hours on each side. The oral arguments on each side are now restricted to five hours, unless the court feels that more time to be given to the Counsel, in which case a maximum of ten hours are given for oral arguments to each side. The length of oral arguments by counsel of both the sides have thus been curtailed which results in the quick disposal of matters.

6. The Government have entrusted to the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are :—

(a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by :—

(i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;

(ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;

(iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce

the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

(b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working;

(c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing off cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to divising procedures aprpopriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii);

(d) the method of appointments to Subordinate Courts/Subordinate Judiciary;

(e) the training of Judicial Officers;

(f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice;

(g) the desirability of formulation of the norms, which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such undertakings;

(h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants;

(i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and

(j) such other matter as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purpose afforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Production of Khadi

2669. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what was the target and the quantity of production of khadi in the country state wise during the last two years;

(b) the details of incentives provided by Government for accelerating the growth in this sector; and

(c) whether there has been any shortfall in the production of Khadi during the last two years and if so, what are the reasons thereof and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Installation of tidal power projects

2670. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for installation of Tidal Power Projects in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Lakshadweep, Bay of Bengal, Western Coast in Gujarat are the best locations for such projects;

(c) whether any preliminary reports about the feasibility has been prepared in the matter and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (c) The installation of a tidal power project in the country would depend on the techno-economic feasibility of the venture. At this stage investigations and preliminary feasibility studies for a 600 MW tidal power project in the Gulf of Kachchh are under progress.

(b) The Gulf of Combay, the Gulf of Kachchh and the Sunderbans in West Ben-